



# Oklahoma Crop Weather

## Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

P.O. Box 528804 · Oklahoma City, OK 73152-8804

(405) 522-6190 · FAX (405) 528-2296 · [www.nass.usda.gov/ok](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ok)

A combined contribution with Cooperative Extension Service, USDA Farm Service Agency and Oklahoma Mesonet

Volume 34, Number 8

Issued April 4, 2011

## Wheat Continues to Suffer

Another dry and windy week in Oklahoma means continued concerns about the potential of the wheat crop as well as planting row crops into dry soil. According to the US Drought Monitor, as of March 29 all but the furthest northeastern counties are experiencing some level of drought conditions, with 92 percent of the state in a moderate to severe drought. Very little precipitation fell last week with a statewide average of 0.11 of an inch. For the period since March 1 the Southeast and South Central districts are the driest on record (since 1921) and the Southwest is having the second driest such period. Fire danger remains high with windy conditions and multiple fires reported across Oklahoma last week. The first half of the week was cool but Sunday brought highs over 100 degrees, with average temperatures for the week in the 50's. Topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions continued to decline with only 14 percent of topsoil and 12 percent of subsoil rated adequate. There were 6 days suitable for field work.

### Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, April 3, 2011

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Very Short	58	54	3	55	52	5
Short	28	31	13	33	33	14
Adequate	14	14	68	12	14	69
Surplus	0	1	16	0	1	12

**Small Grains:** Condition ratings continued to decline as the drought progressed. Dryland wheat is especially affected and additional wheat acres are being adjusted by insurance. **Wheat** jointing was 75 percent complete by week's end, six points ahead of normal. **Rye** jointing was 86 percent complete by Sunday, 12 points ahead of normal. **Oats** planted reached 90 percent complete and oats jointing reached 21 percent complete by week's end. **Canola** blooming reached 49 percent complete by Sunday, a 29 point increase from the previous week.

**Row Crops:** Seedbed preparations continue to progress, though planting may be delayed due to the extremely dry soil in some areas. **Corn** seedbeds prepared reached 75 percent complete by Sunday, and 14 percent of corn was planted. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 20 points ahead of normal at 47 percent complete. **Soybean** seedbed preparation was 27 percent complete. **Peanut** seedbeds prepared reached 55 percent complete by week's end, 14 points ahead of the five-year average. **Cotton** seedbed preparation was 39 percent complete by Sunday, 12 points behind normal.

**Pasture and Range:** Condition ratings declined slightly from the previous week as pasture and range continues to suffer in the drought.

**Livestock:** Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$141 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$131 per cwt. Livestock conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range. Pond levels are low in the worst affected areas of the drought and operators are still haying and feeding supplements. Hay supplies are also a concern.

### Conditions by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, April 3, 2011

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Small Grains -</b>					
Wheat	22	31	31	13	3
Rye	15	30	45	9	1
Oats	25	46	23	5	1
<b>Livestock, Pasture and Range -</b>					
Livestock	2	12	43	37	6
Pasture and Range	16	35	38	10	1

### Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, April 3, 2011

Crop and Event	Week Ending			5 Year Average	Crop and Event	Week Ending			5 Year Average
	April 3, 2011	March 27, 2011	April 4, 2010			April 3, 2011	March 27, 2011	April 4, 2010	
<b>Wheat -</b>					<b>Sorghum -</b>				
Jointing	75	58	60	69	Seedbed Prepared	47	40	26	27
<b>Rye -</b>					<b>Soybeans -</b>				
Jointing	86	74	76	74	Seedbed Prepared	27	26	22	32
<b>Oats -</b>					<b>Peanuts -</b>				
Planted	90	86	96	95	Seedbed Prepared	55	40	57	41
Jointing	21	16	18	22	<b>Cotton -</b>				
<b>Corn -</b>					Seedbed Prepared	39	33	47	51
Seedbed Prepared	75	66	50	63					
Planted	14	N/A	N/A	N/A					

**Weather for Week Ending April 3, 2011:** Temperatures ranged from 23 degrees at Boise City on Wednesday, March 30th, to 103 degrees at Altus on Sunday, April 3rd. Precipitation ranged from 0.02 of an inch in the Panhandle and North Central districts to 0.32 of an inch in the Northeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 42 degrees at Vinita on Thursday, March 31st, to 74 degrees at Waurika on Sunday, April 3rd.

### Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, April 3, 2011

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2011 to April 3, 2011		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Panhandle	68	34	52	0.02	0.30	-1.52	16
West Central	68	38	54	0.04	0.56	-2.10	21
Southwest	71	40	56	0.04	0.04	-2.48	2
North Central	65	38	52	0.02	0.98	-1.99	33
Central	67	41	55	0.05	0.36	-3.24	10
South Central	69	43	56	0.06	0.19	-3.74	5
Northeast	62	39	51	0.32	1.97	-2.10	48
East Central	64	42	53	0.21	1.04	-3.49	23
Southeast	66	44	55	0.20	0.92	-4.01	19